

Woman' Christian Temperance Union of Victoria, Inc.
Convention Afternoon Function at the 122nd State Convention
held at 1st Floor 15 Collins Street, Melbourne
Tuesday, 2nd March 2010

“What about the children?”

Approximately 40 women and one man, including WCTU members and representatives of a number of church, community and temperance groups enjoyed a fruit drink, and a boxed lunch prepared by the women of Mobile Mission Maintenance.

Ellen Chandler introduced the afternoon program with a short informative talk about the work of WCTU and focussed especially on children.

Drug Ed program coordinator, Anne Bergen, spoke on the “How and Why of WCTU Drug-Free Lifestyles Drug Ed Programs” and showed some of the teaching aids used in the programs.

Ellen then introduced our guest speaker, Julie Gale, founder of “kidsfree2bkids”. Julie gave an inspiring talk about how she became concerned at the way advertising and clothing manufacturers sexualise children, especially young girls and told of her success in getting one company to recall a line of inappropriate baby clothes. She was also successful in getting a Senate Committee Inquiry into the subject that made some very worthwhile recommendations, but, sadly, nothing has been done to implement these recommendations.

Following Julie’s talk there was opportunity for questions and discussion.

The President of the National Council of Women, Victoria, spoke briefly along with Sheela Byard, their lobbying advisor.

A very interesting and informative afternoon enjoyed by all those present concluded with afternoon tea.